What are leishmaniases?

Leishmaniases are neglected tropical diseases caused by a group of parasites named Leishmania. There are different forms of the disease:

- **Cutaneous leishmaniasis** (affects the skin)
- **Visceral leishmaniasis** (affects internal organs)

**Localised**
- Single lesion
- Occurs at bite site
- Often heals without treatment
- Leaves scars - DISFIGURING

**Mucosal**
- Affects mouth, nose and ears
- Difficult to treat
- Makes eating difficult
- DISFIGURING

**Diffuse**
- Many lesions
- Does NOT heal
- Looks like leprosy
- DISFIGURING

- Also called Kala azar (meaning black fever)
- Causes fever, weight loss and enlargement of spleen and liver
- FATAL if untreated

Where do leishmaniases occur?

- **Cutaneous leishmaniasis** (affects the skin)
- **Visceral leishmaniasis** (affects internal organs)

= Countries where leishmaniases occur

How do leishmaniases develop?

- **Cutaneous leishmaniasis** (affects the skin)
- **Visceral leishmaniasis** (affects internal organs)

Sand fly infected with Leishmania parasites

Leishmania parasites

Sand fly bite

early lesion

1 month lesion

typical cutaneous lesion

Visceral leishmaniasis

Parasite migrate to liver and/or spleen